

LEER THEATRE
ADVANCE BOOKING OFFICE—ST. FRANCIS HOTEL
BOOKING HOURS—11.00 A.M. TO 5.30 P.M. DAILY
COMMENCING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.10, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.

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THE MOST EXCITING STAR TEAM ON THE SCREEN
TOGETHER AGAIN!
A great entertainment from the spectacular BURGESS STUDIO POST REPORTER
DARK PASSAGE
BRUCE BENNETT AGNES MOOREHEAD TOM D'ANDREA DENNIS DAVIS JERRY WALKER
ALSO LATEST G. B. NEWS: CAMBRIDGE BUMPING RACES, BRITISH FASHIONS FOR HOME & OVERSEAS, RUGBY — ENGLAND v. IRELAND.

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THEATRE

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• FIRST EPISODE •

1000 SPY CHASING ADVENTURES!
1000 GUN BLAZING COMBATS!
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MILBURN STONE JAN WILSON DENNIS MOORE
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ALHAMBRA THEATRE
TO-DAY ONLY AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 P.M.

THUNDER ROCK
and JAMES MASON with LILLI PALMER
in the CHARTER FILM PRODUCTION OF
MICHAEL REDGRAVE BARBARA MULLEN
Directed and Edited by BOB BOUTLING
Produced by BOB BOUTLING
Screenplay by Jeffrey Cott and George Wiles
Cinematography by John L. Russell
Distributed by METRO-GOLDBRICK PICTURES LTD.

TO-MORROW! Gary COOPER • Bing CROSBY
PARAMOUNT'S "VARIETY GIRL"
WITH AN ALL-STAR CAST!

Invitation
TO SEE OUR NEW
'DONUTS'
MACHINE AT WORK
ON LOK YUEN CO. LTD.

You are cordially invited to visit any of our stores during this week to see delicious, fresh doughnuts being made. Untouched by hand, they are ready to take home. Bring the children.

BRITAIN'S FUTURE DEFENCE

Service Costs give a clue to Strategy in the Atomic Age

Parliament recently heard how much money is to be spent this coming year on Britain's armed forces.

These estimates give a clue to the way military strategists are preparing against the possibility of future war.

The figures themselves tell no more than how much this preparedness is to cost the taxpayers. But, taken alongside the figures and announcements released by Government departments in the last few months, it is possible to build up a picture of the task which has been set for the back-room boys. The report below has been prepared

by CHAPMAN PINCHER

TO the Service-trained mind five aspects of the plan are clear:

I The Government is banking on there being no major war which could involve Britain or the Empire within ten years.

EVIDENCE: (A) Forces manpower has been cut far below the security level fixed by the defence chiefs.

(B) Our main reserves of warships, aircraft, and tanks are being scrapped or put into cold storage where, for lack of maintenance, much equipment must become unserviceable.

2 The defensive policy is based on the assumption that experimental weapons evolved towards the end of the last war can be developed to the operational stage.

EVIDENCE: (A) More than £107,000,000 has been allotted to the Supply Ministry and Admiralty for development work.

(B) Reorganisation of the Services is being held up until reports on the battle possibilities of the new weapons are available.

(C) Government contracts for orthodox tanks and artillery have been cut or cancelled.

3 Any mass production of these new weapons—in the event of an emergency—will be done chiefly in America.

EVIDENCE: (A) British armaments are being standardised to American types and calibres. (B) The two Governments are pooling research results.

4 The scientists have decided that within ten years there is no possibility of producing a long-range rocket capable of carrying the atomic bomb, which weighs four tons.

EVIDENCE: (A) The Air Secretary announced this week that the R.A.F. is to have a highly mobile striking force of fast bombers. (B) The Americans, who are far ahead of Britain in rocket research, have not yet built a missile as powerful as the original V2.

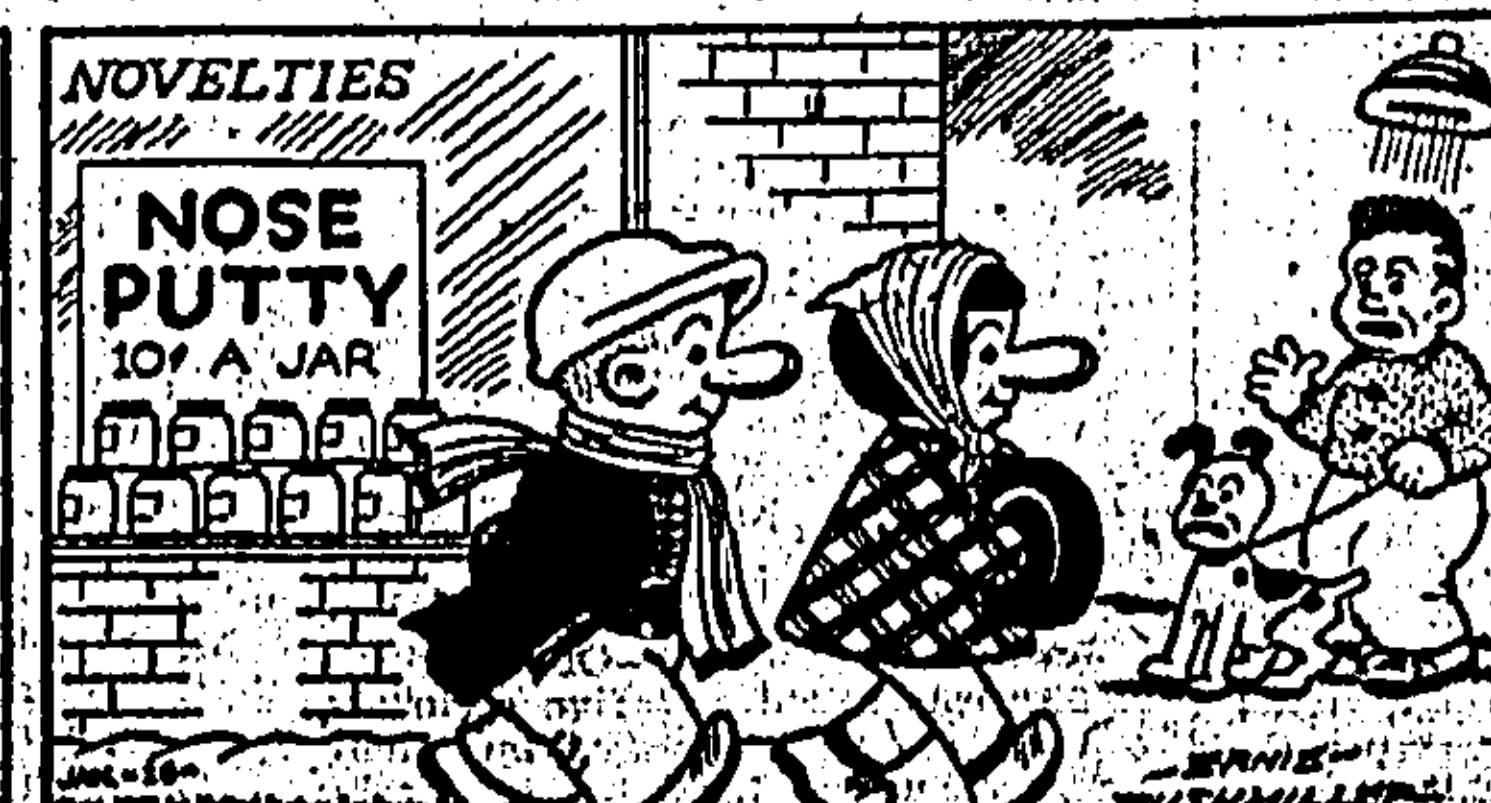
NANCY Cozy Nosey

BOY—IT'S MY NOSE IS SIMPLY COLD TODAY

YEAH—I WISH THERE WAS SOME WAY TO KEEP OUR NOSES WARM

HMM—I HAVE AN IDEA

NOVELTIES
NOSE PUTTY
10z A JAR



By ERNIE BUSHMILLER

I took a piece of butter to Germany

At any time now—as the German leaders have secretly warned the British administration there—the people of the Ruhr may take the law into their hands and raid Germany's farms for food. For weeks now the clash between the towns and the countryside in the battle for something to eat has been growing more serious. Money is no solution Sir Stafford Cripps said: "The Germans don't want their own money." As a commentary on this crisis, here is a from-the-spot report on a problem which touches British pockets...

by BRUCE BLUNT

ACCRA (Gold Coast). — A £3,000,000 war on swollen shoot disease, which threatens to wipe out the cocoa industry, has been started by the Gold Coast Government.

Government scientists will lead the attack on a 300-mile line of plantations where the disease is imperilling the Colonial Empire's most valuable monopoly.

Three quarters of the world's supply of cocoa, from which chocolate is made, comes from West Africa.

Scientists say the plague can be stopped in five years, but the only cure is to cut down a tree at the first sign of infection.

Planters are to be paid 25 an acre for cutting down "sick" trees. Those who replant and keep trees healthy will get an extra £7 an acre.

OTTOVA. — Squaws of Alberta Indian tribes have won an equal voice in tribal affairs, thus ending centuries-old male domination.

At a pow-wow in Calgary, the Indian Association of Alberta voted to give the squaws full rights. The Federal Parliament Indian Affairs Committee will be asked to alter the Indian Act to give women a vote for chiefs and councillors, and take part in tribal administration.

BRISBANE. — The Queensland Government has closed almost the whole of the State railway, throwing 19,000 men out of work, because 3,000 maintenance workers are on strike for higher pay. A long stoppage will mean industrial dislocation and serious food shortages.

CHRISTCHURCH (N. Z.). — Miners have won New Zealand's first "consumer resistance" campaign. West Coast (South Island) publicans have been forced, after a four months' boycott, to sell beer at a penny cheaper than the Government-controlled price, 7d. a glass.

CANBERRA. — Plans for a Pacific cruise by an Australian squadron, following the depletion of the British Pacific Fleet, have been delayed until two new aircraft-carriers, building in Britain, join the Australian Navy.

PRETORIA. — South Africa's illegal immigrants, it has been disclosed, totalled 972 in the last two years: 833 of them ship deserters, of whom 497 were from Britain.

This was done, for example, in the estimate of potatoes last season. The German estimate was 8,000,000 tons. The British sent back an estimate of 12,000,000 tons, which the Germans accepted. As their eventual delivery was only 60 percent of this, their acceptance may have been polite, but was somewhat ineffective—(except, perhaps, from the pigs' point of view).

The land was well tilled, the winter corn was green and forward—and yet you cannot buy a plough-share or a harrow-dise in Germany with money.

The farm-wife's boots were in good repair—but the village cobbler will not do this work for marks.

In other words, everything which a farmer needs must be bought on the black market with goods or services: Poultry or pork, or butter or eggs, must be paid to the blacksmith and the cobbler, and to any other tradesman with whom the farmer deals.

There are other services, rendered by the German officials and police, which have also to be paid for in kind. Remember that these are the authorities which are supposed to have direct control over the farmers for enforcing regulations.

Suppose that one of his cows has been stolen. The German police man who suggests that it may still be on the farm will usually be too pleased to take a joint of meat and say nothing more about it.

Missing cattle. NOW a cow is not at first sight an easy animal to steal, but the number of missing cattle which is reported in the two zones suggests that the German populace has mastered this difficult art to perfection. Indeed, when searches were made after last year's census of stock, 1,790 unacknowledged cattle and 2,000,000 unknown pigs were found about the place.

The impossibility of the whole task of supervision becomes obvious when you look at the figures. There are only about 30 British farm inspectors attached to the British zone.

Ten of these are at present in the U.S. zone. Yet there are 700,000 farms for these few unfortunate men to keep an eye on. And this does not take into account any holdings which are smaller than five-sixths of an acre.

And quite a lot of fun can be had on five-sixths of an acre! It is a disillusioning picture, this, when you remember that from August 1945 to November 1947 1,035,000,000 dollars (\$259,750,000) have been paid for food imports into the British and U.S. zones of Germany. The British taxpayer has paid exactly half!

Fine pigs

AMONG clean litter in concrete pens lay a fat sow and store pigs of various sizes. They were fed, I was told, on mangolds and potato peelings. Any English farmer would have been proud of these pigs.

Our Small Pig Keepers' Council would hardly recommend mangolds as a first-class fatterer for pigs. And I was too tactful to ask how this small farmer managed to keep back enough potatoes to provide peelings for so many pigs.

But then, or course, it is the Germans who send in their own estimates of possible production. The British can revise these figures, and

BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

CHISTMAS seems to have come a little early this year, was the comment in the village, as the noise at Wretch Manor increased.

Every time the Colonel tried to speak he was cheered to the echo. Every time Mrs Wretch opened her mouth the dwarfs jumped up and down in their glee, crying out, "Oh, very brave! Oh, well done, lady!"

The improvised see-saw was crowded with people and Soboldigo the Demon Cyclist had found an old bicycle, and was threading his way through the rooms backwards waving the detached handle-bars above his head. Farjole, Merrybody, was imitating a lion-voiced cuckoo, while Badly Oronparser and Barkinyo-Tong

danced the Kiekadillo on the table, and, with a cry of "Muffins!" the whole rag, tag and bobtail pelted out of the house, and rushed down the drive and into the village.

A welcome diversion

It was only when the Colonel had fetched an old megaphone, which he used when coaching the Wyke Green Rowing Club, that he was able to shout loudly enough to make his meaning clear. The revels died down, and all crowded round eagerly, like children, to watch the after games. Mrs Wretch and I, he said, "are at a loss to explain this—er—well, this—business." Perhaps Mr Wugwell would like to say a word? Perhaps Mr Wugwell would have liked to say a word? We shall never know. For at that moment the local fire-engine passed through the village, with its bell clanging,

and the dwarfs, who had been watching the proceedings from a window, burst out laughing. "Bif!" they cried, and the fire-engine drove off.

Interlude. Prodnoe: You destroy the illusion of truth by exaggeration. How can anyone believe all this nonsense?

Myself: If you are insinuating that newspapers invent things, you are making a very grave charge.

Prodnoe: Well, you don't really suggest that all this happened?

Myself: No hints, please. Make your accusation like a man.

Prodnoe: Very well. I don't believe a word of it.

Myself: You will hear from my solicitors.



